



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY
MIKE STRAIN DVM, COMMISSIONER



Louisiana Board of Animal Health
10:00 a.m.
Veterans Memorial Auditorium
5825 Florida Boulevard
Baton Rouge, LA 70806
Proceedings

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Craig Fontenot at 10:00 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGENCE

Dr. Craig Fontenot led the pledge.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by Jaclyn Soileau.

Members present: Dr. Craig Fontenot, Dr. Clark Cooper, Rayburn Smith, Kurt Cazayoux, Thomas Early, Sara Byrd, Brady Rutledge, David Mains, Bill Holdman, Giles Brown, Lennie Crawford.

Members Absent: Dr. Anna Chapman, Nickey Smith, Dale Cambre, Dan Cason

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: David Mains made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting, April 28, 2022. Motion was seconded by Rayburn Smith. **MINUTES APPROVED**

LDAF UPDATES:

Kevin Wofford, the Commissioner of the Animal Health Division spoke concerning the man-power shortage in the Animal Health division as well as the upcoming dangers facing the state late in the 2022 hurricane season but assured the board that the emergency management office was prepared to tackle the situation if need be. Mr. Wofford then turned the updates over to Dr. Daniel Myrick, the Assistant State Veterinarian. Dr. Myrick informed the board of the capability for CWD prions to remain transmissible in soil for years once detected. He highlighted the difficulties faced by exotic livestock farms that face complete de-population should their herds test CWD positive. It is for these reason that the new regulations regarding CWD testing in captive bred deer are so important.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner of Agriculture, Dr. Mike Strain entered the meeting along with Dr. Brent Robbins, Louisiana State Veterinarian. The board recognized them both and invited them to speak.

Dr. Strain thanked the board and spoke concerning the upcoming potential hurricanes, the improvement of commercial seasonal crops, and the importance of the CWD updates to

the state regulations. Bill Holdman made a motion to accept the updates to the CWD regulations, Dr. Clark Cooper seconded his motion. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CWD UPDATES IS PASSED.** Dr. Strain thanked the board for their consideration and exited the meeting with Dr. Brent Robbins.

Craig Waguespack, the director of the Alternative Livestock Program gave his report concerning the number of deer tested this year to date, the advancement of livestock markets using RFID tags for sales, equine RFID, turtle farms, alternative livestock harvest tags and the number of captive deer breeder/ hunting pens in the state. He then introduced Dr. William Waddell from the Homer, LA Poultry Diagnostics laboratory. Dr. Waddell gave his report to the board concerning High Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Dr. Waddell reported that the lab has not found any positive HPAI in any poultry tested by the lab to date.

Dr. Jonathan Roberts then gave his own report as the Director of the LDAF Feed Lab.

Scott Perry, the Director of the Livestock Brand Enforcement gave his report on livestock market business, as well as upcoming adjudicatory hearings the board will oversee.

Allison Dumas came forward and reported on the Food Safety division, warehouse inspections, as well as inspections of processing facilities in the state.

Brian Miller, director of the LDAF Meat Inspection gave his report to the board concerning the work of the state meat inspectors. His report included the process for creating a successful meat, and or egg processing facility. The work the inspectors do to assist business owners and the expansion into helping small family farms to meet health and safety requirements to sell their meat and egg products to the public.

Jesse Carver an officer with the Brand Inspection, reported on the tagging stations, back-tags, sale barns, the expansion of USA Herds digital program, and the newly created digital cellular CVI offered to veterinarians at no cost.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Myrick then gave his final report to the board concerning the proposed updates to the Trichomoniasis regulations, PCR vs. culture testing as well as positive tested cows. He also expressed that he felt that creating a Trich certified free program was neither viable, nor fiscally responsible for the state at this time. Dr. Cooper made a motion to accept the Trich regulation updates. Rayburn Smith seconded the motion. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE TRICHOMONIASIS REGULATION UPDATES IS PASSED.**

FUTURE MEETING

Tentatively scheduled for Friday, December 16, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Fontenot made a motion for the board to adjourn. Motion is seconded by Dr. Clark Cooper. Meeting is adjourned at 11:48AM.